June Sprigg Tooley is the coauthor of Shaker Built. She has written extensively about the Shakers since 1972, when she went to live and work at Canterbury Shaker Village.

Dr. Scott Swank. a historian and teacher. is the president of Canterbury Shaker Village.

David Larkin is a designer of illustrated documentary books. including Shaker Built, American Colonial, and Farm.

Also published by The Monacelli Press: Shaker Built The Form and Function of Shaker Architecture Paul Rocheleau and June Sprigg

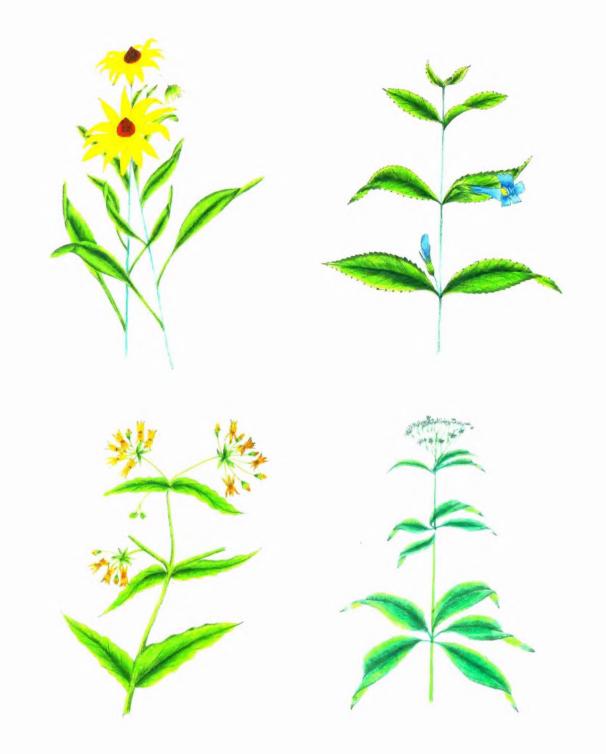
Edith Wharton A House Full of Rooms Architecture, Interiors, and Gardens Theresa Craig Photography by John Bessler

American Colonial Puritan Simplicity to Georgian Grace Wendell Garrett Photography by Paul Rocheleau

Farm The Vernacular Tradition of Working Buildings David Larkin Photography by Paul Rocheleau

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WILD PLA

## A Thaker Fister's Drawings

OVER ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO, a young woman at Canterbury Shaker Village in New

Hampshire was considered too frail to take part in the rigorous daily duties of the working Shaker Sisters. Yet Cora Helena Sarle had a talent for art, and the spiritual leader of the community, Elder Henry Clay Blinn, suggested that she use her gift for

the good of the communal family. Thus she began her task of recording all the wild plants, herbs, and

In two modest notebooks, leaving no room for mistakes, young Helena filled page after page with more than 180 exquisite color illustrations, exceptional for both their accuracy and their delicacy. Each drawing is complemented by the specific growing conditions of the wild and cultivated plants. With this work, she joined a Shaker tradition of creating maps and "gift drawings" that relayed the

This lovely facsimile captures the life and times not only of Cora Helena Sarle but of Canterbury Shaker Village in the 1880s. Essays by noted Shaker expert June Sprigg and Village president Scott T. Swank illuminate the patterns of daily living in the nineteenth-century community. And of course. Helena's exquisite drawings bring to life the extensive Canterbury property, and reveal the inspira-

message and passion of the group's calling.

flowers around the village.

tional gifts of their creator.



WILD PLANTS ILLUSTRATED BY CORA HELENA SARLE

THE MONACELLI PRESS





A SHAKER SISTER'S DRAWING

A Phaken Fisten's Drawings

1

### A SHAKER SISTER'S DRAWINGS





# A SHAKER SISTER'S DRAWINGS

WILD PLANTS ILLUSTRATED BY CORA HELENA SARLE



INTRODUCTION BY JUNE SPRIGG TOOLEY
AFTERWORD BY SCOTT T. SWANK

THE MONACELLI PRESS

A DAVID LARKIN BOOK

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Edited and designed by David Larkin Printed and bound in Hong Kong While sowing by the wayside
Or oft in gardens fair,
O scatter thoughts of gladness
And blessing ev'rywhere.
In words of peace and profit,
In deeds of love and care,
That wilderness and desert
May bloom with harvest rare.

"Sowing to the Spirit" from the Shaker Hymnal, Canterbury, New Hampshire, 1908

#### Introduction

WHEN I WAS NINETEEN, I went to Canterbury, New Hampshire, to live and work with the Shakers. Every day that summer of 1972, I spent hours talking with the Shakers, a half-dozen Sisters in their seventies, eighties, and nineties. It was a wonderful time. I got six more grandmas; they got a youngster who couldn't get enough of their stories of the "old Shakers" who built their world on faith and love, and whose accomplishments remain an admirable part of the American legacy.

When my head grew full and my young legs restless, I'd go for walks in the country around the lovely white hilltop village. In July the roadsides were generous with blossom—cornflowers, daylilies, butter-and-eggs, devil's paintbrush, brown-eyed Susans—but bountiful by what I learned to understand as New England standards. New England seldom overwhelms. No lush, hothouse mass, no gaudy showstoppers here: I had to be still and look closely to appreciate this quiet creation. The God who sketched this Yankee Eden measured fruitfulness with reserve.

That summer the Shakers told me so many stories about Elder Henry Clay Blinn, the flower of Canterbury's vanished brotherhood, that I soon felt as though I knew him, or at any rate, that Henry was around but had just stepped out the door. I read every word of Henry's manuscript journals and letters and came to recognize his handwriting before I found his signature. The spirit of this gentle schoolteacher, spiritual leader, and good-humored polymath hovered over and throughout the village. The Shakers, whose lives were built on the bedrock of Christian faith in the everlasting life of the spirit, were matter-of-fact about sensing the spiritual presence of bygone Believers. I was spellbound by their accounts of communication with loved ones. An awareness of benign, invisible companions touched occasional outsiders, too, who paid attention to their sixth sense. For years afterward, Eldress Gertrude Soule delighted in quoting a visitor who likened the presence she felt to a "blanket of blessing" over the village.

I could not absorb enough, and I didn't want to forget a bit, so I sketched endlessly that summer. It tick-led me deeply to learn that I had a twin a century earlier. Cora Helena Sarle, known better by her middle name, was fifteen years old when she came to Canterbury in 1882, one of many hundreds of children over time who found a home with the Shakers. Elder Henry himself had come to the Shakers in 1838 when he was fourteen. By the time young Helena knew him, Henry was the beloved spiritual patriarch of the community, hailed in his own time as the last of the great early leaders. The progressive spirit of Elder Henry and his partners among the Sisters was responsible for Canterbury's survival into the late twentieth century. While most of America's other Shaker settlements dwindled and died around the turn of the century, the Canterbury leaders made their community a warm and attractive place, where the young people required for the next generation of this celibate society were more inclined to stay than to go. Like all the children raised by the Shakers, Helena was free to choose when she came of age.

Helena had been with the Shakers for just a year when Elder Henry saw an opportunity for her to improve her fragile health while using her artistic gifts for the good of the communal family. He asked her to illustrate a book of botanical drawings of native plants to help teach the younger children. Elder Henry himself researched and wrote the text.

Tramping around the fields and woods in fresh air strengthened the young woman physically, as Henry intended. His kindness and wisdom in inviting Helena into a project that brought her so much into the heart of the community reaped their rewards, as well. At age twenty-one, Helena signed the Covenant and committed herself to the Shaker life she was to enjoy for nearly seventy more years. The work of Elder Henry and other mentors bore fine fruit. Helena grew into graceful, creative Shaker womanhood, serving God and her community with her gifts for painting, cooking, needlework, and music. Most of all, she loved fun. With Helena came the joys of sledding parties and popcorn parties, candy making and maple "sugar on snow," trips to the seashore, fishing parties, and picnics. Helena, nearing forty when Elder Henry died in 1905, picked up what old age made him lay down and devoted herself to the community's young people. She was "Grammy" to the children who adored her.

So began this inspired collaboration, in love and respect between the generations—Henry, the born teacher, perceiving young Helena's aptitude with pen and brush; Helena, bright and pleased in that wondrous, special way of teenagers to be finding her God-given talent, trying her hand at a rendering of one plant, then another, and another, until more than 180 of her delicate watercolor drawings were gathered in two volumes. There is something in the style of Helena's drawings that distinguishes them from the idealized pleasantry of watercolor renderings that were fashionable among "ladies" of the period. Was the young Helena shown any of the sacred "gift drawings" produced by Shaker visionary artists, almost all women, some forty years earlier? If so, did the simple, stylized drawings of flowers and trees that the artists received in visions of the "spirit world" shape the way Helena saw flowers and shrubs in the natural world? The observer is struck by Helena's straight stalks, the symmetry she perceived in nature, her use of space, and the economy of layout on every page, which allowed no room for mistakes. By the late nineteenth century, when Helena was beginning to embrace Shaker life, the "gift drawings" and other relics of the "era of manifestations" in the 1840s and 1850s were packed away, vestiges of an earlier spiritual zeal, more full of wonders, less genteel.

Helena's botanical drawings remained in Canterbury Shaker Village throughout her life, a treasured family heirloom. In time this charming and important work by Elder Henry Blinn and Sister Cora Helena Sarle was acquired by the late Milton Sherman, a respected collector of Shaker artifacts, imprints, and manuscripts. Its recent return to Canterbury Shaker Village is the occasion for celebration and the preparation of this lovely facsimile edition. May you linger over its pages and, in stillness and pleasure, awaken to the rare harvest within.

### Notebook One





Grace. Myricaciae.

Comistaria asplenifolia.

Sweet Fern.

mon in partures and or hill sides. The main show in overed with a mety, brown barth, who is becomes reddick in the beand hes, and write downy in the young theorts. Scaves unmar ours. Fertile flowers in a dense rounded burt or head. withathed below the barren ones.

May.



Order Compositac. Diplopappus umbelans.

La. Sem 3 to 4 yr high.

aug & Sefat.



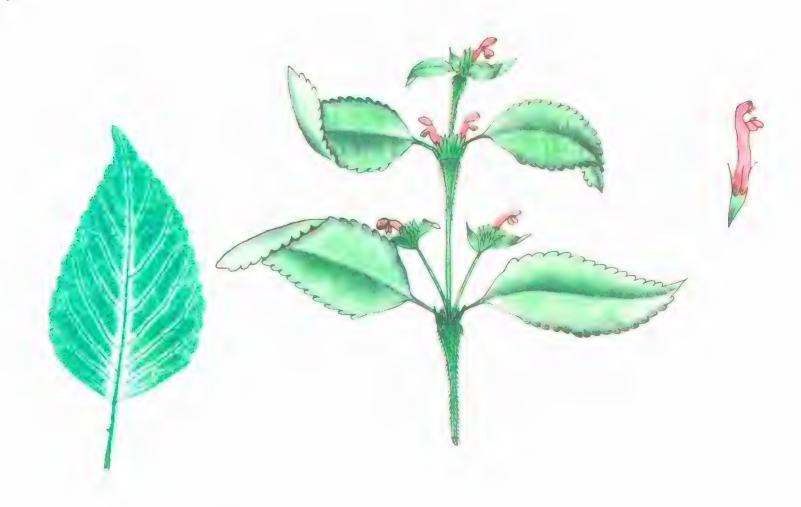
Tune llug.

feet high.



Galerella Bursa pastoris. The pherd's Purse:

fields, pastures and road sides. Stem 6-8-12 miches high. Stem leaves are omaller than the root leaves and are half classing at the stem. Silicle smoother, hiangular, after Sept.

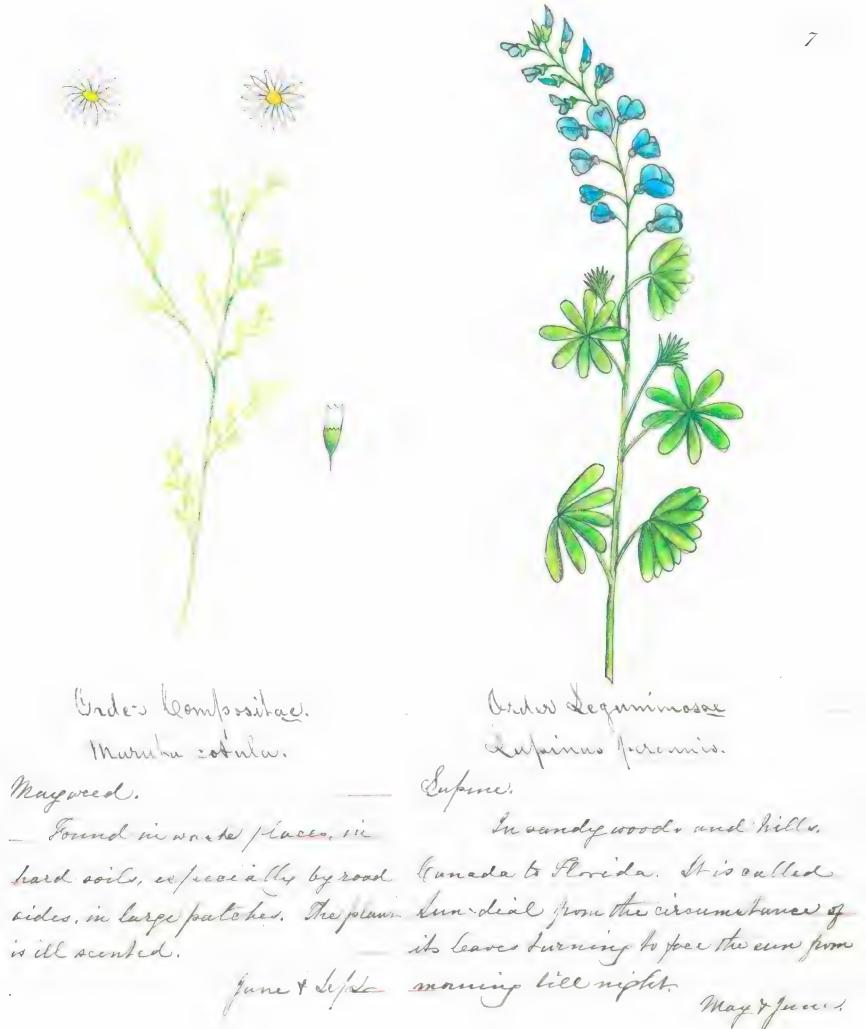


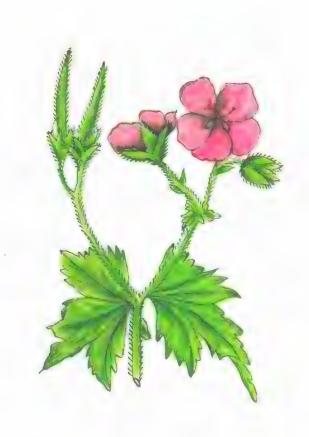
Order Labiatae. Salcofosis tetratik

Hemp Sellle.

Resummen weed in waste und cultivated grounds, in sorthern States. Hem covered with de. Hefed briskes. Internodes thickened upwards.

— June, July.





Irder Geraniaceae. Beranina maculatum.

Spotted Geranium.

In dry rocky places. I and to Na. I has a disugreeable smell.

May to le fut.



Under Exicacine. Elimaphila maculata. Vinces Pine.

en dry woods. A common, little en green, lan & Sortnern States. Julyo



Rubno hispidus.

Trailing OGlack berry.

in dam to wood Hey the road ide, Can, to Carolina

Paileur several deci.

May & "une.



Order Carysphyllaceae. Værgula avvensis.

Journy.

A weed in an 'water' grounds. Can be Esa.

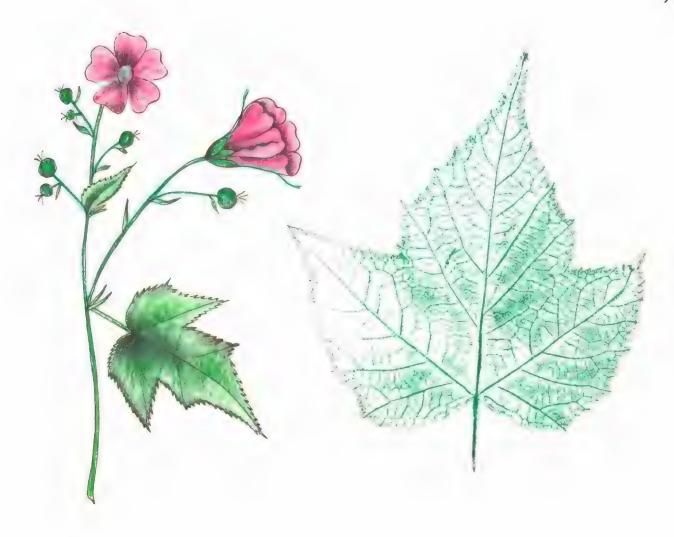
May Tup.



Order Kompasibae. Nabalus a rifeimus.

Draso Flower.

Jall, with yellowish. nodding flowers. in woods sew - Foundland, to New England and Kentucky. Stem 3 to 5 ft. high,



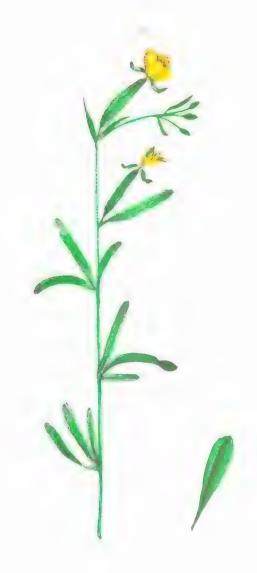
Rubus odoratus.

Michberry.

A him flowering shrub, in upland woods, Alled.

and Brit. Umer. common. Fruit bright red. sweet.

Fruit rife in Eleg. Howers in June and July.



Coening Primrose.

Coening Primrose.

Common in grafo lands, Can to Lo Car.

June. Aug.



Order Lubiatae. 16edenna pulegioides.

Umer ennyroyal. Squaw mint.

Fragrant A small sweet souted herb, and held in high refuch. Abundant in dry pastures. Can and Ill. S. Howeving all summer.



Order Lauraceae. Vassajrus officinaie.

éassaria s.

fart of the tree has a pleasant papeance tun aromatic rarle.

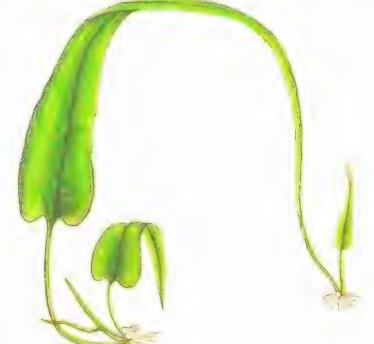
Cafor. June.



Order Violaceac. Viola cumblater.

Wood leaved violet.

This is one of the most common Hinds of violet, found in low, grapes woods home Urchie timer, to - Horida.



Ander Eines.

Andrew Eines.

Andrew Airadolylla.

Mallerip Form.

Elmi ungular bern grows in
rocky roods, nor very common.



Order Mosaccac. Potentilla Canadensis.

Common in fields & thickets, Med & Care.

" Lefor aug.

Larei Lamarack.

Can beautiful tree in from donn

Can be den u.

Ulfor May



Order Orienceae. Malmia ungustifolia. Mesp poison. Caleco Bush. Found in woods und by the road side from Can, to Car, Said to be poisonous to callle.



Orgenoum Americanum.

Das toothed violet. Lellow Ery bronzione.

A beautiful Little plant, many the earliest or our vernal Mowers. Friend in the woods and by the side of the highway, in rich apen grounds, M. J. and Can.



Order Ohenspodiaceae.
Ohenspodium album.

Cigweed.

The most common of weeds in fields and
gardens.

July: Lefst.



Fild sorrel. Much sorrel.

a common weed in pastures and waste grounds throughout the M. S. firefering dry.

hard soils.

June. aug.

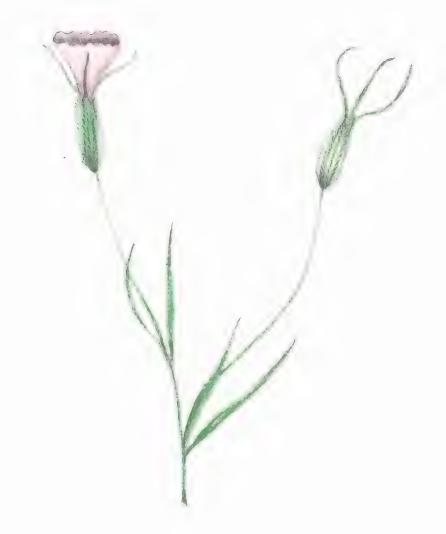


Rummentus abortions.

Hound leaved crowfoot.

Can bo Url. Kimarkable for its difficultarily of root and stom leaves.

Hing, June.



Order Varyophyllaceae. Ogrostemma Githrago.

forn cochle.

a heat or other grains. July.



Snifolium prominosae Sellow blover: In dry soils, It, It, to Va. Flowers at length reflexed. June, July.



Order Papaveruceae. Chelidonium majus.

Candine.

brows by road sides and fences. Has abundant bright yellow finee. It is used to destroy war to. May, bet.



Order Polygalaceae. Polygala pancifolia.

Millwork

Mem from 3 to 4 inches high. Bears from 2 to 4 flowers.

May



Order Lubiatae. Brundla vulgaris.

Self heal. Blue curls.

Aosth amer. Lat 33° to the Elictic sea. Howering -



Order Kosaceae. Spirea tomendosa.

Hard hack.

low grounds, Can and M.S. The fruit in writer furnishes food for the snow birds.

July. aug.



Brafsica campestris.

Calc.

Eultisted filds and waste placed.

In the



Rammenlaceae.

Buttereups.

This is the most common species in N.E.

and ban, in fields and pastures.

June. Left.



Order Rubiaceae. Mitchella refers.

Partridge Berry.

throughout the M. S. and Can, Fruit well flace fund. but dry.



Inder Pricaceae.

Isaultheria procumbens.

Exectlerberry.

Common in woods V pastures.

Can. to Ky.

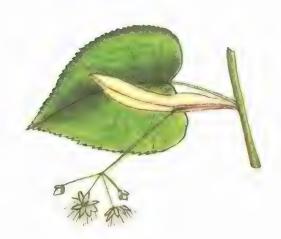
In. & Lefs t.



Order Rosaciae. Potentilla argentea.

Silver weed.

and by wood sides, A. Eng to archic amor. Seaves silvery while beneath. fune, Sept.



Order Tiliaceae. Iilia Umericana.

Bals wood.

A common fredt tree in the northern & middle states. June.



Moi antronom bito ium.

in leaved estomonis deal.

A small plant when the edges of wood lands.

Gan. and M. Eng. and west to this. Genies pale

ud, afrettled with four force.

May.



Monse ear Chick weed.

Trows in felds and ouste grounds. Can.
and M.S. Flowering all summer.



Dagittaria variabilis.

Corrow Trad.

the rushes and sedges of sluggish waters, Can-



Scafy Bun Marigold. Beggar hiells.
Thilds and hedges. Can to Ga.



Vedge Bindweed.
Privillets. Face & Mr.S. Chimbing over bushes.

July the fot.



Grden Aselepiadaceae. Uselerias conneti.

Common Lillweid.

ligh, in hedger and road wider, outs full of seeds.
with third by sille.



Order Rosaceae. Dalibarda repens.

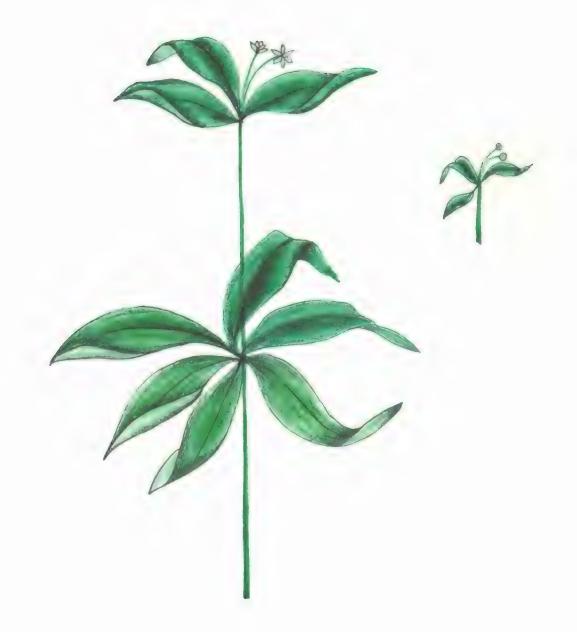
False hiolet.

Low herbs. Stoms reefring. In woods, Can. Tenn. June.



Phys comitium pyriforme.

On the ground; oftremely common.



Indeada Virginica.

Indian Cacumber rook.

Tound in the woods. None can but admin the symetry of its form.

July.



Sidor Deguminosae.

Sidor Deguminosae.

That in arvense.

A low blant in dry sandy fills.

Me. to Ta. Hends of pale red flowers.

July. Aug.



Order Araliaceae. Aralia andieanlis.

Wild Sareafairella.

Most abundant in wich and rocky soils, Cun.
lo Car. It has a least stall, but no proper stem.
June, July.



That is in the promise of fan. it is a.

I have in inge halbert shaped haves.

I have for funge halbert shaped haves.



Indean tovacco.

In pilots and voods. Gun and Mi. i.

The where of sobelia are more or less poisonous.

The milky faice is narcohic, producing affects

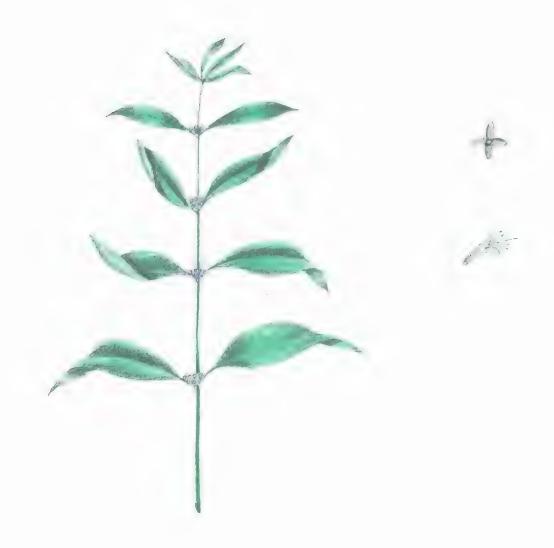
similar to those of tobacco.

Puly, Less.



Dry bilds und woods, common. Stem 3 to 6 ft high.

aug. Lefat.



Under Dubratue. Montra Canadensis.

Horsemint.

blu herbuceous, gray site plant, 1 to 2 ft.
high growing in middy situations, Can to
Ky. Uromatic like panny royal, but less so.

- June, July.



Sette sweet. Night shade.

Well herown climber, with blue flowers and red beries, It Eng. to art.

The berries are said to be possonous.

July,



In wet ground, ban. Is Ea. Capsule.

In tong, bursting at the shightest touch when

mature and scattering the seeds.

Clug.



John Johnson sagittubum.

verateh Grafo.

In wet grounds. Can. and M.S. Wrough

climbing species, 2 to 5 ft in length.

Flowers white:

June.



Vader Kummentaceae. Hepatice tribba.

Liverwork

The sittle print is one of the earliest is arbingers of the resing, often bulling forthe is neat and eligant flowers in the neighborhood of nome lingering anow built. Council is the woods from Can. to Can and west to their



Grden Mederen.

Garimoria Enjactoria.

Lyrimony.

Tound by the road sides and borders of hilde, 'ann, and M. S. common.

July.



Order komposidae. Uder punicens.

aster.

a large, aster, common in swampes, & détakes t.

aug t left.



Oster Multifloms.

asker.

Rocks and dry fields, Mod. Nariable. Lefet.



Common To ad May.

Common To ad May.

Levery showy plant, common by road

sides, A. Englo Ky and Cas. 1 to 2 4 high,

very leafy,

fully, Clup.



Trailing arbutus. May Flower.

Found in the woods from Sewfoundland
to Ky. A little struckby plant, grows flat on
the ground. However are very fragrant.

Offer. May.



Bartrania pomifornis.

apple mop.

In shady bank, either dry or moists

Common.

Ender derolphulariacew.

That head. Turkle head.

A plant of brooks and wot places.

Com. and M. S. with flowers shaped little

the head of a snake, the mouth open and

Longue eftended: (up. Sept.





Order Parysolnyllaceae. Ibergularia rubra. Red and work.

sandy fields, I am. I ilv. Stem a few inches high slender. May. Och.

Order Derophulariaerae. Meronica serfoyllifolia. Speed well. in meadows, rally and in grato by the road vide. Al S. & lan. May. aug.



Order Veruceau. Cleer rubrum.

Ited maple. Common in the woods of A.E. Howers are crimen.



Order Kubiaceae. Delpharankus. occidentalis.

Button Bush.

Readily distinguished by its spherical.

heads of flowers. Whandsome shrub, frequent,
ing the margins of rivers, ponds and brooks, M.S.

and Can. Height, 6ft.

July.



Order Ranmenlaceae. Copptis trifolia.

Gold thread.

words. Hem creeping, golden yellow, very bitter. Eduncle blass a single, white star like flower. Man



Arder Compositae. Achillea milletolium. Varroue.



Order Orieaceae. Chimapolila umbellata.

Prince's Gine.

Wid. Found in the words. Used in medicine.

July.



Order Alpocynaceae.

Apocynum androssemifolium.

Dar's Bane.

A smooth, elegant plant, 3 ft nigh. in

indges and borders of fields. Hom reddened by

the eur. erect. branching above. Medicinal.

June, July.



Graco driduccas.

Disgunchium Bermudianum.

Blue eyed arab.

Ce delicate lettle plant,

orth blue flowers, common in

bor ; rai lands, Can + M.l.

Junes July.

Order Orchiduceae.

Sulopogon pulchellus.

Grafo Vintl

Ce veautiful plant, in wamps

and damps meadows, Can, +

10.6. 10 is 20 inches high.

June, July.



Order Gruciferae. Barbarea sulgaris.

Wrinter Crefs. Fields & brooksides, com mon in Nowhern States. Mag & June.



Order Dyco podiaceae. Dycopodium dendroidenm.

Club moss.

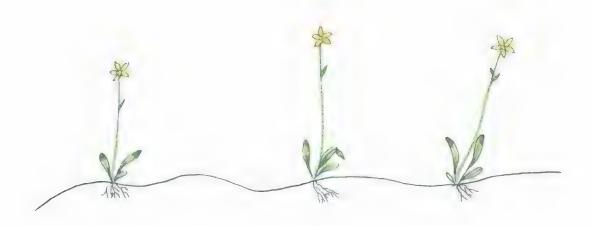
Common in woods. I readily distinguished by its upright, tree like form. July.



Irden Composidae. Infridage farfara.

bollo tost.

In web places, brooksides you the shores y lakes. North and middle states. It grows in clayey soil. The flower appears in early spring before a leaf is to be seen.



Vannenlus reptons.

Erceforing Crowfood.
On river banks and other wet places. Cant N. 26. West.
July:



Salium asprellum.

Kough Cleavers. and Mb. S. Common in thickets and low grounds. Con.

July.



Order Pontederiaceae.

Richard Med.

A fine conspicuous plant, native of the borders of muddy latter, and rivule to, growing in factohes, cf. anding from the shore to deep water. To

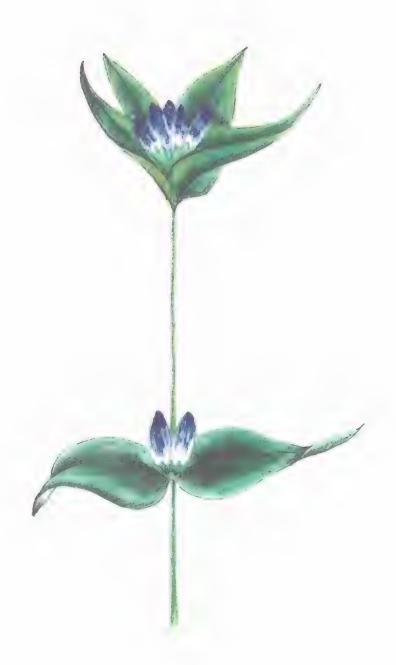


Order Medanticuceae. Ivatrum viride.

False Hellebore.

land la la. Root, emeké and strimetaux, but poisonous.

July,



Grden Bentianaceae. Gentiana Andrewsia.

Elored Blue Gentran.

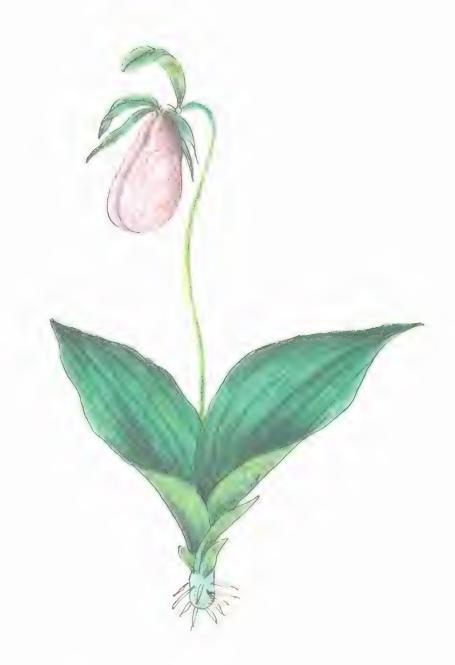
to Car. 12 to 18 in high. Lefst. Bet.



Order Primilaciae. Trientalis Americana.

Guekweed. Winde, green. Common in rocky woods of Can. 'o Ca.

May, June.



Arder Archidaceae. Lyfsrifsedinn acaule.

Sadyo Mijoper: In dark woods, bur, to her. Iner.

May, June.



Order Leguminoser. Amplicarperes. monoica.

De rine

I very elender ome in woods & thickets, ban. & M.S. fuly. Seft.



Mium enspidatum.

In woods and about the roots of trees;



Order Onagraciae. Ekilobium angustifolium.

l'esc. Lay.

to Pere. America. Inde. Low waste grounds. Fuly: August.



Inder Italidaceae. Italis Actosella.

Mood Lovel.

Woods Vshady places, Com. VM. S.

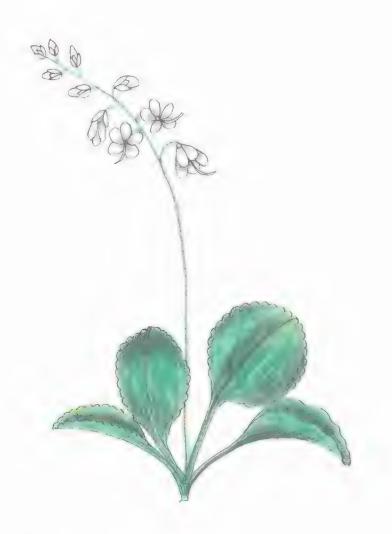
June.



Polytichum commune.

Mair cafe mofe.

Stady places, common. Plant 6' high.



Order Fricaceae. Ogrola Arlorantha.

Mintergreen:

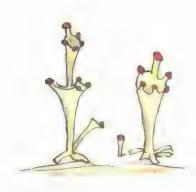
In wood s, Can, and Northern States, common.

June, July.



Order Vornaceae. Vonnus Ganadensis.

Low bornel. Bunch plant in words, nearly throughout North America. May. June.



Cladonia cocciness.

Enplichen.

Grows on pieces of bark or old brees, that lay on the ground.



Irden Trilliaeeae. Trilliam væstum.

Buth flower.

but offensive oder. May.



Irden darraceniaceae. Darracenia fourfourea.

Petcher plant.

In bogs tweet meadows throughout ban. & fune.

M. S.

## Notebook Two

Orden Orchidaceae.

Lesson Slejajoer.

Wood & and meadows. Can to This, and south to Georgia.

May- June.

Order Pricaceare. Chiogenes hisfoidula.

Bolberry.

In old woods Von mountains.

N.E. to Newfoundland.

May-June.

Order Tafaceae. Tafus Canadensis.

Ground Hemlock.

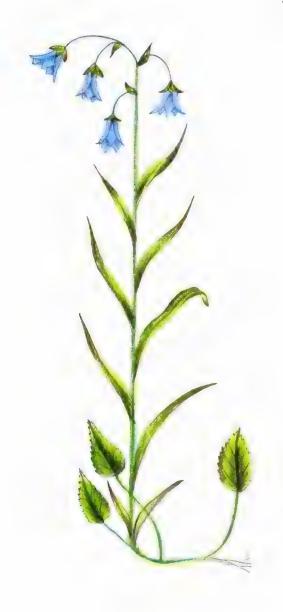
grows on thin rocky soil in shady places, Can to Ky. May.



Order Ordindaceae. Pogonia verticillata.

Luampes. Sun to Za. common.





Order Ordindaceae. Bogonia ophioglopoides.

In swamps and on meddy

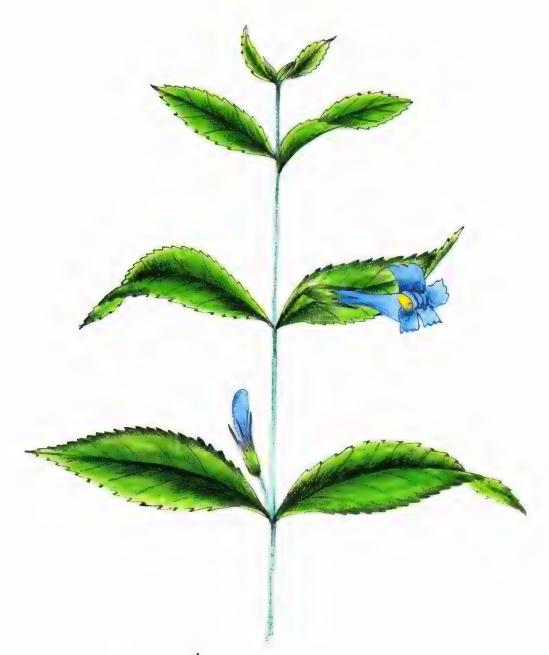
shores, Can. N. Eng. to Car and Ky.

June!

Order Campanulaceae. Campanula robundifolia. Hare bell.

Northern States & Brit. amer.

June-July.



Arden deropohulariaceae. Minulus ringens.

Montley Hower.

Can and M.S.

July-lug.



Order Aquifoliaceae. Prinos verticillatus.

Winter berry.

Found in mout woods or awamps. Can &M.S.

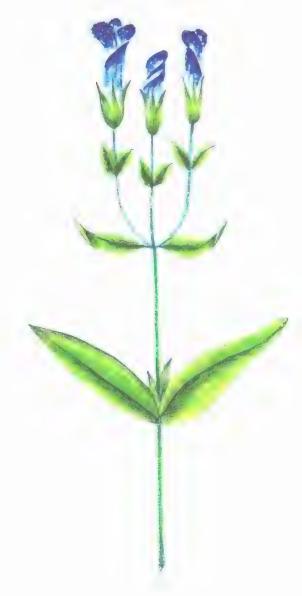
July.



Irder Kaminenlacias.

Creefing Crowfood, On river danks to ther wet places, Can & S. N. Y Mest

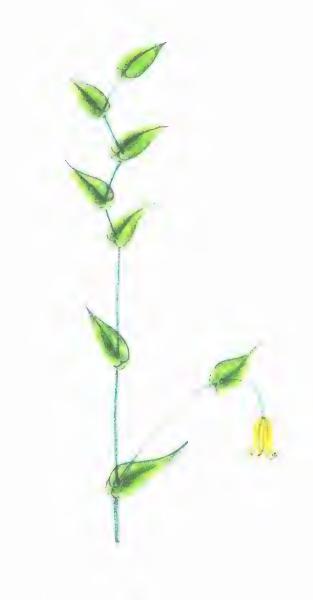
lucy.



Dader Bentianaceae. Isentiana viinita.

Blue fringed Sentian. Not uncommon in cool, low grounds. Can to Car.

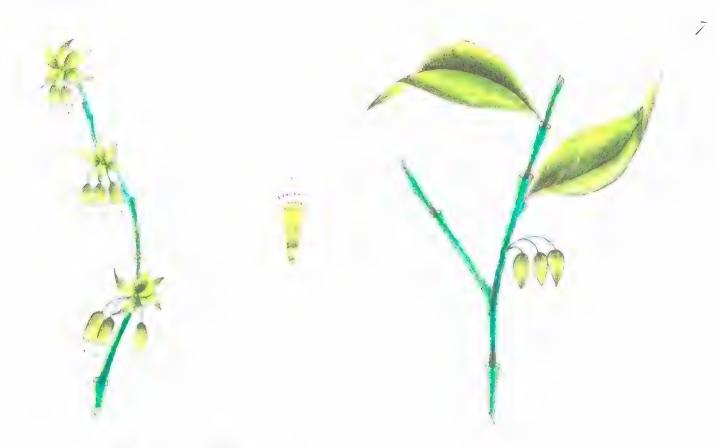
August.



Arder Liliaceae.
Moularia perfoliata.
Mealy Bellwort.

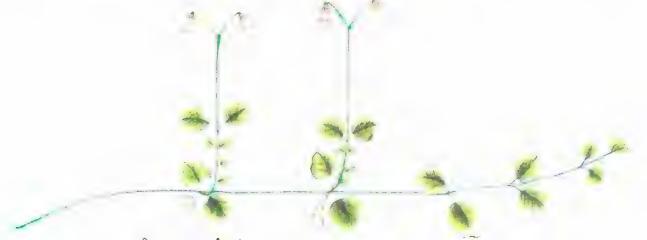
A hund some plant in the woods. Can. & M. S.

May.



Order Shymelaceau. Direa palustris.

Seather Mood. Grows near mountain streams arrivalets. M. S. & Cane Every fourt of the shrub is very tough. Afor. May.



Irder bajonifoliaceae. Linnaca borealis.

Twin flower Minst soils in evergreen woods, from lat 39° to are bea.

June.



brder degummesæ. Lufeinus perennis.

Suloine.

A beautiful plant, In sandy woods, Whills, Can. to Fla. For Turning to face the sun from morning till night.

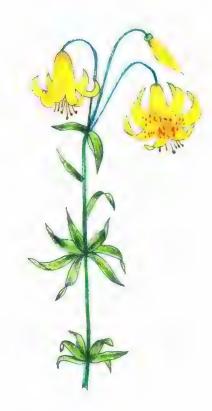
May, June.



Order Myricaceae. Myrica crifera.

Bayberry.

Found in dry woods, or in open fields, ban to Fla. May.

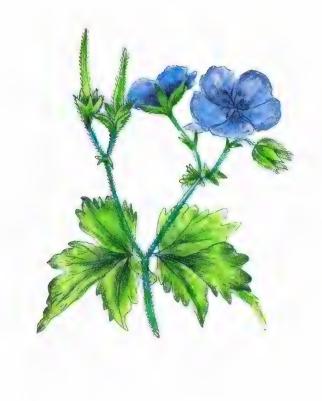


Order Diliaceae. Lilium Canadense.

Vellow lily.

Found in meadows twet places.

Can. H-M. S.



Onder Genaminerae.

Gorania maculation

Apotted Geranium.

I day " often placed for so at Ky.

Man - lefst,

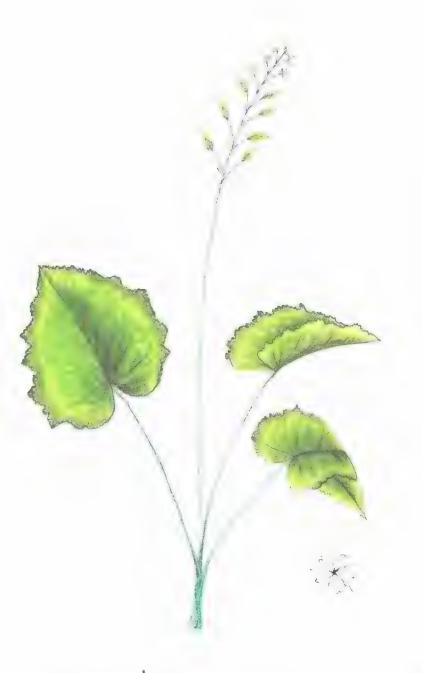


Order Duniacene. Dasselias officinale.

lassafras.

Grow in the U.S. & Can. Every fourt of the free hava pleasons fragrance.

ran aromatic laste. (cfor fune.



Order Sorfifragaceae. Siarella cordifolia.

Bicholos bap. En rocky woods, Can, to Ea, Comsnon in N. Enc.

danguinaria banadensis. Blood soot.

bruised the plant epudes an orange red fluid. The fine is emetic to fourgative.

Pefer. May.



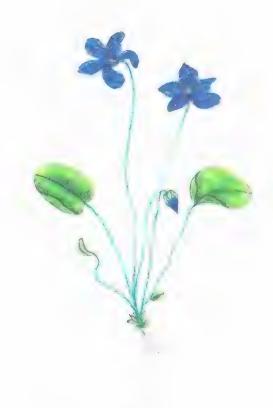
Ander My perienceae. Alyperienn perforatum.

In dry pastures, Can't M. S. June, July.



Order Rosaceae. Potentilla anserina.

meadows. It. E. to arc. line.



Arder Midaceae.

Widet. a stander e'a vier in awambs. U.S. L. Eab "Muy.



Order Wiolacere. Viola encullaba.

Peoles. A commence violet, sound in grapy woods from bothe Im to Florida. cefor. May,



Irder derokhelviceae. -Linoria vulgaris.

Toad, Muy.

Rvery show, plant, common by road sides, N.E. lo Ky + Ga.

July aug. -

Werbena hastata.

Mervicie.

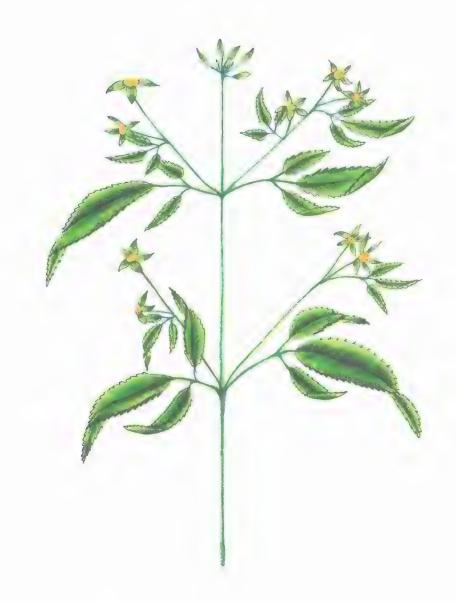
Fre quently by roadsides & in low grounds, mostly throughout the M.S. I Care.

July, de fort.

Orta toniforce. Darif Umericans.

durin, sancia li.

A beautiful ni græste home



Arder Dompositae. Bidens frondosa.

Lenfeg Burr Marigold. Fields and hedges. Com. to La.

July, Sefet.





Onder Dompositue.
Oufsatoinn purpuren....

Dry Filds twoods, common. Shem 3 to 6 ft.

Order Labiatae. Mentha Canadensis.

Horsemint.

in muchly situations, Can to ty. Shem equare. Uromatic.

Tune & July.



In the ed els of swampes & detokes, Can. & M. S. aug.



Order Scrofshulariaceau. Dasystoma flava.

Gellow Tox glove.

ic woods throughout the 116. S.





Ander Reunegenium.

Geer Cenneyenium.

"iched Mafala.

O small hie 12 or 15 ft high, in words.

Order Filices.
Undigramma shizablylla.
Miching. Esa.
inici oriconca, since income.



Orden Liliaecae. Montaria sessilifolia.

Wild Dats.

Found in woods tin graf lands, Can.

7 91. S.

Vlyscomitrium pyriforme.

- On the ground, et. -



- Order Ofaliaceae. - Ofalis stricta.

Good love.

Filds. U. S. & Can. common. Flowers small appearing all summer.



Inder Kangsfolryllaceae. Mellaria media.

ering from early skring till autumn.

sder Diliacci. Cintonia borealis. · Porther in Builonia. Mountainous or hilly woods, Can to Car. I west to the Printes. Order Unacardiaceae. Plus venenata. Porson Sumac. a shreet of fine afa vecerance. 10 to 15 ft high, in swamps, U.S. 4 Can: Flower's very small and green. The whole plant is poiconous to the taste or louch. Arder Canjologhlaciae. Ulsine skricka. Sandwork. Serile grounds, arc. amer to Fra. May, June.

Order Volygonaceae. Pongagonum etu medorum. Hedre Budward. This Med, Gan I'll. a. Cimbine over bushes. A STATE OF THE STA Order Oydrocharidaceae. Unachario Canadensis. with the tites, Le will ruterd and hord. Jug-





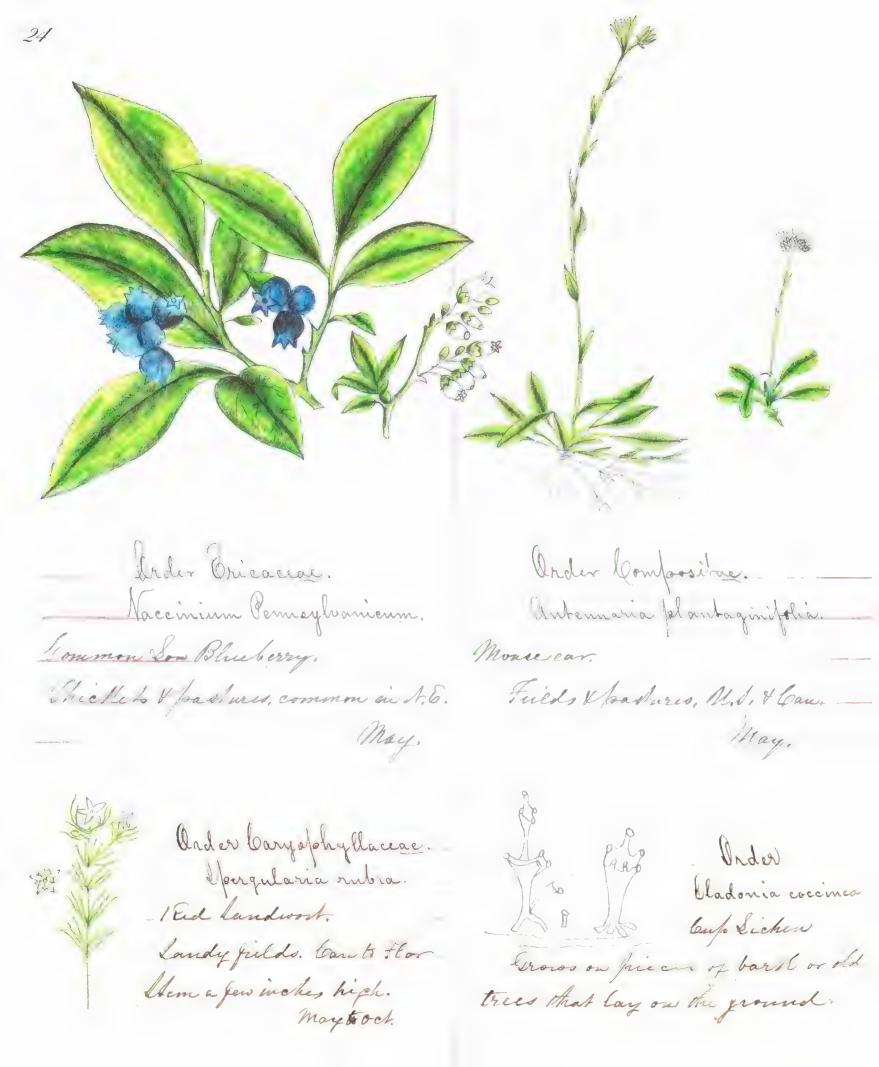
Onden Gentianaceae. Salbatia angularis.

fourmer in parties " in and s, an acrid speaces.

13 If a who

Met mendows Hararies, Care, to Cartark. July & aug.

Order Music & Bartrania poni jornis apole mois. On shady banks, either dry or moist common.





Orden Kamamelaceae. Mamamelis Wirginiana. Metch Hazel.

I large shrub conseiving of several crookled, branching brunks from the same root. M.S. & Can.

stov. Jan.



Under Pasaceae. Underen Janadensis. Shad berry. June Berry.

I small his in moods, It S. Y Exce

Fewers of hear in early westing.



Order Aceraceae. Acer rubrum.

Red Maple. Common in woods og S.E. Howers are crimson.

apo.



Order Usellpiadaceae. asele pices Inberosa.

Butterfly Meed. Dry fields, Can. + M.S. A medicinel plant. Aug.





Dender lenfonliferae. Jagus sylvatica. Beech.

A common firest bue in M.S. than. 50 to 80 ft high.

Order Exicaceae. Saylufsacia resinosa. Black Huckleberry. In words and pastures, ban to Ta. Servies oweet Veatable. May



Inder Rom/assilve.
Sulsilage farfara.
Falts toot.
A low plant in wet places
by brooks & Calles N. & M. States.
Early Spring.



inder It n'aniforiaceae.

Elder. Occommon whenh 6 to 10 ft high in hilly s'wes woods, M.S. & Came. Berries dark pourble. May, July

hder Sycoloodiaceae Sycoloodium dudroideum Colub Moss. Common in woods \*\* eradilu distrin suished.



Meratum viride.

. i al Helle bore.

a course-lootling Jolant in meadows & swamps, Canto Ga.



Arder Khamnaceae. Leanothus Umericams.

Jersey Lea. Red Root.

aomall chrub, found in woods and groves, Mb. S. & Can.

Craier Compositae.

asker

Volynie. un commune Nair cats most.

Nair cats most.

hady / loces som.





Order Deguminosae.

Des modium promiculatum.

Bush Ere, vic.

(I handsome elsecies

bund in woods, Mod. V Can.

"wig & aug.

Under Innei. Mninn ensjoidatum.

In wood & about the roots of trees. Common.

Asher burneens.

(Isher burneens.

(Isher barpe hand some common in avampos & ditches & bry soili,

Can & Mr.S.

aug y letel.



Order Leguminoser. Vicia Gracca.

Infled Metch.

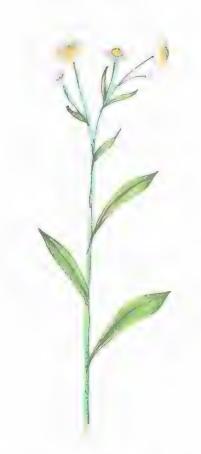
A stender klimber, about sinces and hedges, tew-England and Canada. July.



Irder Licinceau Tilia Umerisana.

120 o mod.

the northise & middle & n is june,



Order Compositae. Engeron Canada 2. Common Heabow.

By road wedes tim fields throughout Aroth Undica. aug. Nov.



Order Kosacene. Potentilla Norvegica.

Cinquesoil.

Old fields and Rice Meto, are.

am to Car. July + Left.



Order Cricaceae. Saultieria procumbens.

Checkerberry.

Common in woods & pastures, Can to Ky.



Inder Caprifoliaceae. Lambueus pubeus.

Vanicle Elder. A common shreeb, in hilly pasines and woods. Weedson's Bay to Car.

May & June.





Ander Colori oliaceae. Niburum lankanoides. Hobble Bush.

Un or namental shrub, common in rocky woods of tew
England.
May.

Hiburum Donlus.

Heigh branberry.

A handsome whe ub, in woods

+ borders of pieds. Northern dates

+ Brit. Am.

June.

Order Caribolineene.



Order Der philainaceae. Gerardia denniforia.

Gerardia.

Hau.

aug. Sept.

Order ton positae. Materias allissimus. Dros Hower in with yellow odding In tille and woods U.S. flowers in woods N. Ft. A.E. + Ky. Sem 3tr 5 ps high



Order Rosaceae. Rubus his sidus.

Lear Cine 12 Cack berry. Can lo Car.

In damp woods they the road wide. May & Time.

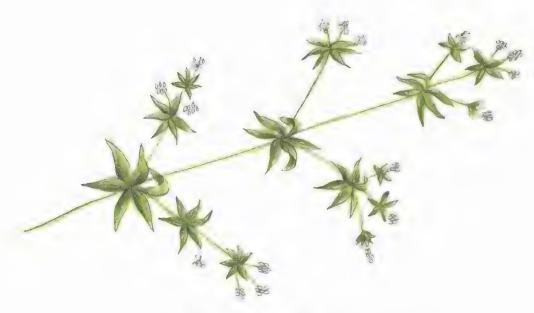


Ander Caryophyllaceae. Hoerqula anvendis. A weed in cultivated grounds. Can to Ga. Caurry. May, Luc.



Order Ameiterae. Brassica campestris.

Cale. Cultivated juilde V w. he jelaces. Jn V July.



Order Kuliaceae. Galinn asprellum.

Rough Cleavers.

Common in thickets of low grounds, I am & M. J.

July.

Here Sister Helena left thirty pages blank, perhaps to allow for specimens to come later. She resumed her work with a study of ferms.

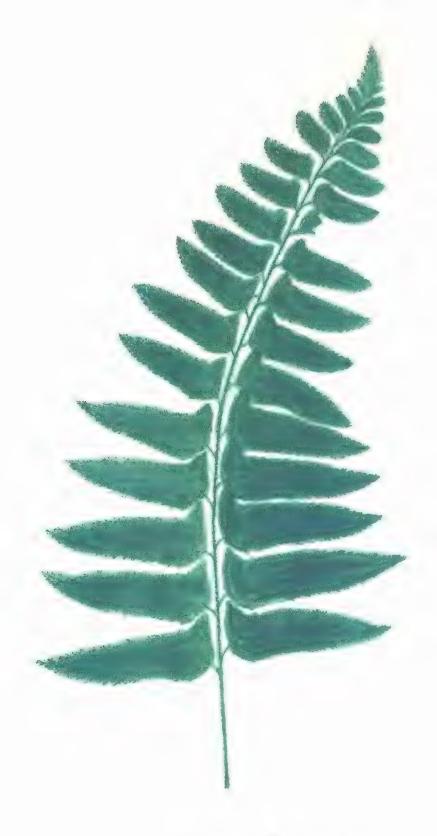


Order Vilices.

Eldiantum fædatum.

maiden Cair.

A beautisul form, abounding in damp. rocky woods.
wife globy fourfale, approaching to a fitablack.
July.



Order Vilices. Aspidium acrostichoides.

Shield Fern.

Common in rocky shades.

June-aux.



Rock Brake.

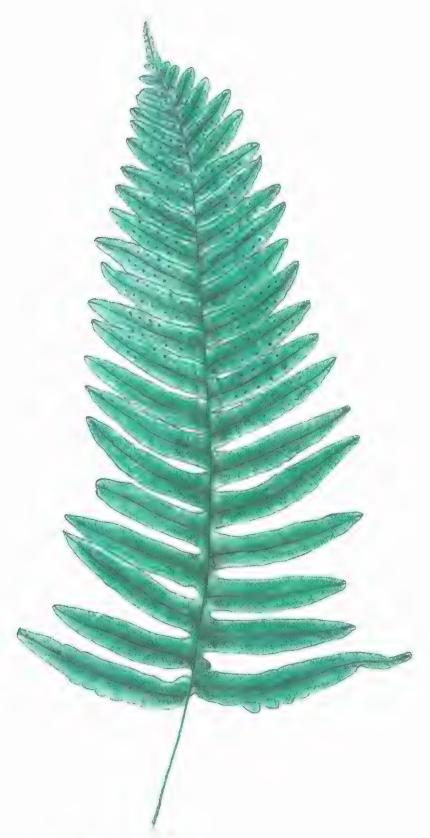
Abundant in woode, past wees and waste grounds.



Order Vilices

(Smunda regulis.

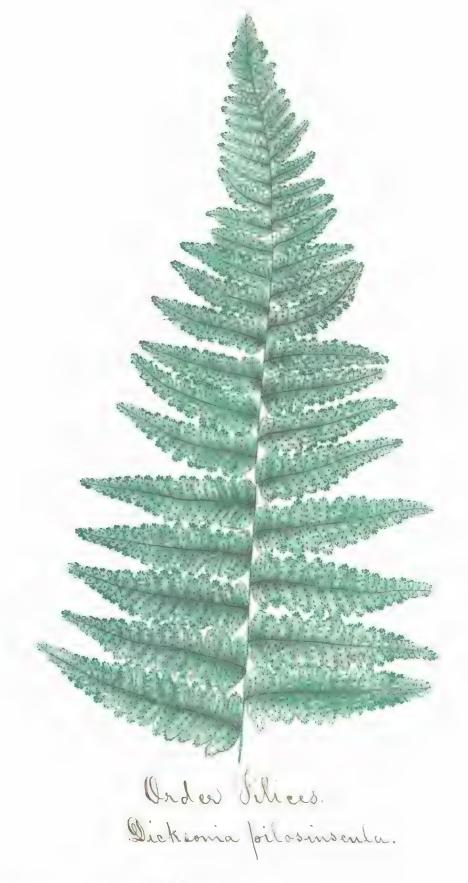
A large & beautiful foru in awam/s & meadows. The fronds
are 3 ft high.



Order Tilies. Folyfodium oulgare.

Common Foly pool.

On stady rocks and in woods, forming tangled patakes.



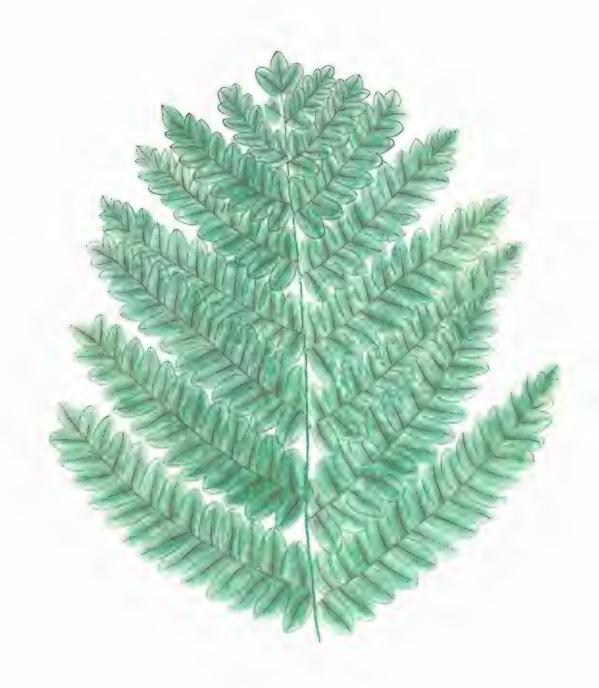
Fine haired mountain fern, Il large, délicate tern in pastures, roadsides, among rocks and stones. July.



Order Vilices.

Emamon Ferre. Obramda cinnamomen.

and low grounds. Fronds invested with a cumamor colored wood.



Order Filices.

Interrufated Flowering Fern.
Common in low grounds, Fronds interrue fated near the middle with 2 to 4 pairs of fertile hatte to.

Afterword

## CORA HELENA SARLE

(1867 - 1956)

IN 1886, AN ASPIRING YOUNG SHAKERESS began to draw the wild and cultivated plants growing on the extensive property of the Shaker community in Canterbury, New Hampshire. Although untrained in the arts of drawing and watercolor, and unschooled in botany, young Cora Helena Sarle had a skilled mentor in Shaker Elder Henry Clay Blinn. At age sixty-two, Blinn knew every tree and plant in the community, having personally planted or tended many of them.

The cataloging of local plants was ostensibly designed to provide Helena with healthy outdoor activity to counteract the threat of consumption, as well as with an opportunity to learn. The project also fit into Elder Henry's larger vision for the Canterbury community. Helena's plant journals would systematically record, in Shaker fashion, the botanical world of the Canterbury Shakers. They would also document for future generations Henry's own extensive botanical knowledge, just as a few years later, in 1891–92, he would begin a written history of the Canterbury Shakers based on his own meticulous scrutiny of the community's records. The botanical journals would also provide a teaching tool for the community's young people and perpetuate the knowledge that had been accumulated since Canterbury's call to order in 1792.

By the time Helena began her work, the gardens at Canterbury were nearly one hundred years old, but the glory years of the Physician's Botanical Garden (laid out in 1817 by Dr. Thomas Corbett) had passed. By 1886, the knowledge of Shaker plant lore was fading as the herbal medicine industry declined.

Today we have no record or oral tradition about the community's use of Sister Helena's journals. We do know she signed the Shaker Covenant in 1888, and remained a devoted member of the community

until her death in 1956. Helena retained possession of the journals until 1938 when she gave them to a young protégé of hers, Sister Bertha Lindsay. Helena never lost her love of plants, gardening, or art. Late in life she returned to flower and landscape painting. Her works—seen today in many media—were done to please her Shaker Sisters and to sell to the public. The more private works include the globes of electric lights, umbrella stands, pin boxes, and large flower paintings for the Sisters' sitting room in the Dwelling House. The public works include small oil and watercolor landscapes and views of Shaker buildings, particularly the Meeting House.

Sister Helena's spirit lives on in many ways at Canterbury Shaker Village, now a National Historic Landmark site and popular museum. The small studio where she worked on the journals in the 1880s survives on the second floor of the Syrup Shop. An easel and studio in the Sisters' Shop remain from her later years, as do a few of the flower beds she lovingly planted in order to provide subjects for her flower painting. The Village also has her cornet, a reminder of another aspect of her health therapy and her participation in the life of the community as a member of the Shaker orchestra, which performed regularly for "entertainments" within the community.

The delicate drawings of Cora Helena Sarle are exquisite expressions of a young woman in the process of committing herself to a life of Shaker order. The Shakers, in return, gave freely of their love, beauty, and knowledge. Her journals are the offering of her heart, mind, and soul to the community and the Shaker way. We are privileged, in this book, to share the intimacy of that gift.

SCOTT T. SWANK
President
Canterbury Shaker Village



Sister Cora Helena Sarle on a visit to

## PLANT NAMES

The botanical and common names that follow have been transcribed directly from Sister Helena's plant journals, retaining all original spelling and punctuation.

## Notebook One

- 1. Lobelia Cardinalis / Cardinal Flower
- 2. Comptonia asplenifolia / Sweet Fern
- 3. Diplopappus umbellatus / Aster
- 4. Polygonum Persicaria / Heart-weed. Smart-weed
- 5. Capsella Bursa pastaris / Shepherd's Purse
- 6. Galeopsis tetrahit / Hemp Nettle
- 7. Maruba cotula / Mayweed (left)
  Lupinus perennis / Lupine (right)
- 8. Geranium maculatum /
  Spotted Geranium (left)
  Chimaphila maculata / Princes Pine (right)
- 9. Rubus hispidus / Trailing Blackberry (top) Spergula arvensis / Spurry (bottom)
- 10. Nabalus altissimus / Desso Flower
- 11. Rubus odoratus / Mulberry
- 12. Oenothera pumila / Evening Primrose
- 13. Hedeoma pulegioides /
  Amer. Pennyroyal. Squawmint (top)
  Sassafras officinale / Sassafras (bottom)
- 14. Viola cucullata / Wood leaved violet (top)
  Antigramma rhizaphylla /
  Walking Fern (bottom)
- Potentilla Canadensis /
  Cinquefoil. Five finger (top)
  Larix Americana /
  Larch. Tamarack (bottom)
- 16. Kalmia angustifolia / Sheep poison. Calico Bush
- 17. Erythronium Americanum /
  Gap toothed violet, Yellow Erythronium
- 18. Chenopodium album / Pigweed

- 19. Rumex acetossella / Field sorrel. Sheep sorrel
- 20. Ranunculus abortivus /
  Round leaved crowfoot
- 21. Agrostemma Githago / Corn cockle
- 22. Trifolium procumbens / Yellow Clover
- 23. Chelidonium majus / Celandine
- 24. Polygala paucifolia / Milkwort
- 25. Brunella vulgaris / Self heal. Blue curls
- 26. Spirea tomentosa / Hardhack
- 27. Brassica campestris / Cale
- 28. Ranunculus acris / Buttercups
- 29. Mitchella repens / Partridge Berry (top)
  Gaultheria procumbens /
  Checkerberry (bottom)
- 30. Potentilla argentea / Silver weed (top)
  Tilia Americana / Bass wood (bottom)
- 31. *Majanthemum bifolium /*Two leaved Solomon's Seal
- 32. Cerastium vulgatum / Mouse ear Chick weed
- 33. Sagittaria variabilis / Arrow Head
- 34. Bidens frondosa /
  Leafy Burr Marigold. Beggar ticks
- 35. Polygonum dumetorium / Hedge Bindweed
- 36. Asclepias cornuti / Common Silkweed
- 37. Dalibarda repens / False Violet (top)
  Physcomitrium pyriforme (bottom)
- 38. Medeola Virginica / Indian Cucumber root
- 39. Trifolium arvense / Hare's foot Trefoil

- 40. Aralia nudicaulis / Wild Sarsaparilla
- 41. Polygonum arifolium / Hastate Knotgrass
- 42. Lobelia inflata / Indian tobacco
- 43. Eupatorium purpureum
- 44. Mentha Canadensis / Horsemint
- 45. Solanum dulcamara / Bittersweet. Nightshade
- 46. Impatiens fulva / Touch me not. Jewel weed
- 47. Polygonum sagittatum / Scratch Grass
- 48. Hepatica triloba / Liverwort
- 49. Agrimonia Eupatoria / Agrimony
- 50. Aster puniceus / Aster
- 51. Aster Multiflorus / Aster
- 52. Linaria vulgaris / Common Toad Flax
- 53. Epigaea repens /
  Trailing arbutus. May Flower (top)
  Bartramia pomiformis / Apple moss (bottom)
- 54. Chelone glabra / Snake head. Turtle head
- 55. Spergularia rubra / Red sandwort (top left)
  Neronica serpyllifolia / Speedwell (top right)
  Acer rubrum / Red Maple (bottom)
- 56. Cephalanthus occidentalis / Button Bush
- 57. Coptis trifolia / Goldthread
- 58. Achillea millefolium / Millfoil. Yarrow
- 59. Chimaphila umbellata / Prince's Pine
- 60. Apocynum androsaemifolium / Dog's Bane
- 61. Sisyrinchium Bermudianum /
  Blue eyed grass (left)
  Calopogon pulchellus / Grass Pink (right)

- 62. Barbarea vulgaris / Winter Cress (top)
  Lycapodium dendroideum / Club Moss (bottom)
- 63. Tussilago farfara / Colt's foot
- 64. Ranunculus reptans / Creeping Crowfoot (top)
  Galium asprellum / Rough Cleavers (bottom)
- 65. Pontederia cordata / Pickerel Weed
- 66. Veratrum viride / False Hellebore
- 67. Gentiana Andrewsii / Closed Blue Gentian
- 68. Trientalis Americana / Chickweed Wintergreen
- 69. Cypripedium acanle / Ladys Slipper
- 70. Amphicarpaea monoica / Pea vine (top)
  Mnium enspidatum (bottom)
- 71. Epilobium angustifolium / Rose Bay
- 72. Oxalis Acetosella / Wood Sorrel (top)

  Polytrichum commune /

  Hair cap moss (bottom)
- 73. Pyrola chlorantha / Wintergreen
- 74. Cornus Canadensis /
  Low Cornel. Bunch plums (top)
  Cladonia coccinea / Cup Lichen (bottom)
- 75. Trillium erectum / Bath flower
- 76. Sarracenia purpurea / Pitcher plant

## **Notebook Two**

- 1. Cypripedium pubescens / Yellow Slipper
- Chiogenes hispidula / Boxberry (top left)
   Taxus Canadensis /
   Ground Hemlock (bottom left)
   Pogonia verticillata (right)
- 3. Pogonia ophioglossoides (left)
  Campanula rotundifolia / Hare bell (right)
- 4. Mimulus ringens / Monkey flower
- 5. Prinos verticillatus / Winter berry (top)
  Ranunculus reptans /
  Creeping Crowfoot (bottom)
- Gentiana crinita /
  Blue fringed Gentian (left)
  Uvularia perfoliata / Mealy Bellwort (right)
- 7. Dirca palustris / Leather Wood (top)
  Linnaea borealis / Twin flower (bottom)
- 8. Lupinus perennis / Lupine
- 9. *Myrica cerifera* / Bayberry
- Lilium Canadense / Yellow lily (top left)
   Geranium maculatum /
   Spotted Geranium (top right)
   Sassafras officinale / Sassafras (bottom)
- Tiarella cordifolia / Bishop's Cap (left)
   Sanguinaria Canadensis /
   Blood root (right)
- 12. Hypericum perforatum / St. John's Wort (top left) Potentilla anserina / Silverweed (bottom left) Viola canina / Violet (top right) Viola cucullata / Violet (bottom right)
- Linaria vulgaris / Toad flax (top left)
   Larix Americana /
   Larch. Tamarack (bottom left)
   Verbena hastata / Vervain (right)
- 14. Bidens frondosa / Leafy Burr Marigold

- 15. Eupatorium purpureum (left)
  Mentha Canadensis / Horsemint (right)
- Achilla millefolium / Millfoil. Yarrow (left)
   Eupatorium perfoliatum /
   Thoroughwort (right)
- 17. Rudbeckia laciniata / Cone Flower
- 18. Dasystoma flava /
  Yellow Foxglove (top left)
  Acer Pennsylvanicum /
  Striped Maple (top right)
  Antigramma rhizaphylla /
  Walking Fern (bottom)
- Uvularia sessilifolia / Wild Oats (top left)
   Physcomitrium pyriforme (bottom left)
   Oxalis stricta / Wood Sorrel (top right)
   Stellaria media / Chickweed (bottom right)
- Clintonia borealis /
  Northern Clintonia (top left)
   Alsine stricta / Sandwort (bottom left)
   Rhus venenata / Poison Sumac (right)
- 21. Polygonum dumetorum /
  Hedge Bindweed (top)
  Anacharis Canadensis /
  Ditch Moss (bottom)
- 22. Ranunculus Pennsylvanicus (left)
  Erigeron Philadelphicum /
  White Weed (right)
- 23. Ranunculus bulbosus / Buttercups (top left) Bartramia pomiformis / Apple moss (bottom left) Sabbatia angularis (right)
- 24. Vaccinium Pennsylvanicum /
  Common Low Blueberry (top left)
  Spergularia rubra /
  Red Sandwort (bottom left)
  Antennaria plantaginifolia /
  Mouse ear (top right)
  Cladonia coccinea /
  Cup Lichen (bottom right)

- 25. Hamamelis Virginiana / Witch Hazel (top left) Amelanchier Canadensis / Shad berry. June Berry (top right) Acer rubrum / Red Maple (bottom)
- 26. Asclepias tuberosa / Butterfly Weed
- 27. Fagus sylvatica / Beech (left)
  Gaylussacia resinosa /
  Black Huckleberry (right)
- 28. Tussilago farfara / Colt's foot (top left)
  Sambucus Canadensis / Elder (top right)
  Lycopodium dendroideum /
  Club Moss (bottom)
- 29. Veratrum viride / False Hellebore
- 30. Ceanothus Americanus /
  Jersey Tea. Red Root (top left)
  Aster / Aster (top right)
  Polytrichum commune /
  Hair cap moss (bottom)
- 31. Desmodium paniculatum /
  Bush Trefoil (top left)
  Aster puniceus / Aster (top right)
  Mnium cuspidatum (bottom)
- 32. Vicia Cracca / Tufted Vetch (top)
  Tilia Americana / Basswood (bottom)
- 33. Erigeron Canadense /
  Common Fleabane (top left)
  Potentilla Norvegica / Cinquefoil (top right)
  Gaultheria procumbens /
  Checkerberry (bottom)
- 34. Sambucus pubens / Panicle Elder
- 35. Viburnum lantanoides / Hobble Bush (left) Viburnum Opulus / High Cranberry (right)
- 36. Gerardia semifolia / Gerardia (left)
  Nabalus altissimus / Drop Flower (right)
- 37. Rubus hispidus / Trailing Blackberry (top) Spergula arvensis / Spurry (bottom)

- 38. Brassica campestris / Cale (left)
  Aster Multiflorus / Aster (right)
- 39. Galium asprellum / Rough Cleavers
- 70. Adiantum pedatum / Maiden Hair
- 71. Aspidium acrostichoides / Shield Fern
- 72. Pteris aquilina / Rock Brake
- 73. Osmunda regalis
- 74. Polypodium vulgare / Common Polypod
- 75. Dicksonia pilosinseula /
  Fine haired mountain fern
- 76. Osmunda cinnamomea / Cinnamon Fern
- 77. Osmunda Claytonia / Interrupted Flowering Fern